

Yvette (Identified Child)

15-year-old Latina female living at home with her mother, stepfather, and two sisters. Yvette is easily engaged and is able to identify her personal strengths without issue. Yvette presents as sullen and depressed but can be easily redirected when reminded of her strengths. Yvette speaks of Sylvia (sister) as being her best friend. Yvette and her mother have a conflictual relationship due to feeling like her mother is too controlling. Yvette has minimal interaction with Jose (step dad), which is very different from how Sylvia relates to him (as her dad). Yvette has a good sense of humor and is well liked by others. Yvette is struggling to know who she is and can come across as “fake” meaning that she adapts her personality to the situation she is in.

Carmen (Mother)

42-year-old Latina woman who emigrated from Latin America 15 years ago. She is the mother of 3 children. Carmen is a survivor of domestic violence (at the hands of Yvette and Sylvia’s father). English is not Carmen’s first language and she will sometimes present as difficult to engage in conversation (providers are unsure if this is due to language barrier). Carmen’s work history consists of mostly retail work. She has not been able to find a job for the last 7 years due to a police record (shoplifting). Carmen is extremely organized and can be perceived as not flexible in the way she parents or manages her household. She has an “old school” way of parenting and believes that children should be obedient and should contribute readily to the household functioning. Carmen loves all of her children but is feeling frustrated with Yvette because she thinks that Yvette should make a stronger commitment to change. Carmen speaks very lovingly of Jose although they do not get much time together due to his work schedule. Carmen is very devoted to her children. She is an active mother and is protective of their well being.

Jose (Step-father)

40-year-old Latino male living with Carmen, his daughter Gina, and Carmen’s two other daughters. Jose’s ability to speak and understand English is limited. Jose works 15-hour days as a roofer and is frequently not available for meetings with providers or in regards to the children. He is the father of Gina (age 6) and is closely bonded to her. He is also close to Sylvia, who refers to him as her dad. Jose and Carmen have been together for 10 years. Jose and Yvette do not have a strong relationship. Because Yvette doesn’t mind him, Jose ignores most of Yvette’s behaviors. Jose does not spend one on one time with Yvette but does so with Sylvia and Gina. In Jose’s spare time, he sleeps, goes to the gym, or tries to spend alone time with Carmen.

Stacey (Mental Health Therapist))

Works as an individual therapist for Yvette and has been seeing Yvette for 1.5 years and currently sees her twice a month. Despite Yvette's readiness to end therapy, she and Stacey have a good relationship with one another. Stacey is not specialized in eating disorders and this sometimes creates a challenge in her work with Yvette. Stacey is genuinely concerned and committed to her work with Yvette. Stacey is open to ideas and suggestions for how she can improve her work with Yvette. Stacey views Yvette as a child who is struggling to find her place in the world and who needs a great deal of support. Stacey has tried to engage Carmen in Yvette's therapy but struggles with knowing if Carmen really "gets it."

Kim (Probation Officer)

Because Carmen petitioned the courts for help, Yvette was assigned a probation officer. Kim has been working with Yvette and Carmen for the last 3 months. Kim visits with Yvette at least once a month in school. Kim's schedule varies so she is not always available for meetings. When she is available, she wants to leave each meeting knowing that her needs and concerns have been addressed. Kim enjoys working with Yvette and views her as "good kid" who struggles with mental illness. Kim wants Yvette to be an active member of her community and to willingly receive the help she is being offered.

Ms. Wilson (School Adjustment Counselor)

Ms. Wilson has been working with Yvette for the last 3 years in a limited capacity (responsible for 600 students). She has seen a major change in Yvette's motivation and in her academic achievement since Yvette's last hospitalization (June 08). Ms. Wilson feels that Yvette is capable of changing for the better and feels that Yvette is purposefully binging and purging to get out of school. Ms. Wilson is resistant to suggestions and opinions of other and feels that the school is meeting Yvette's needs adequately. She doesn't feel that Yvette would be eligible for accommodations based on her mental health needs.

Gabby (Yvette's friend)

Yvette and Gabby have been friends for 3 years. Gabby is easily engaged and is well liked by others. She is aware of Yvette's struggles and tries to be helpful. Gabby is friends with Sylvia as well. Gabby has a sense of humor that makes Yvette feel at ease when they are with one another. Yvette trusts Gabby and tells her everything. Both Yvette and Gabby attend an academic based after school program together. Carmen thinks Gabby is a good friend for Yvette but does not allow Yvette to spend time with Gabby outside of the school day.